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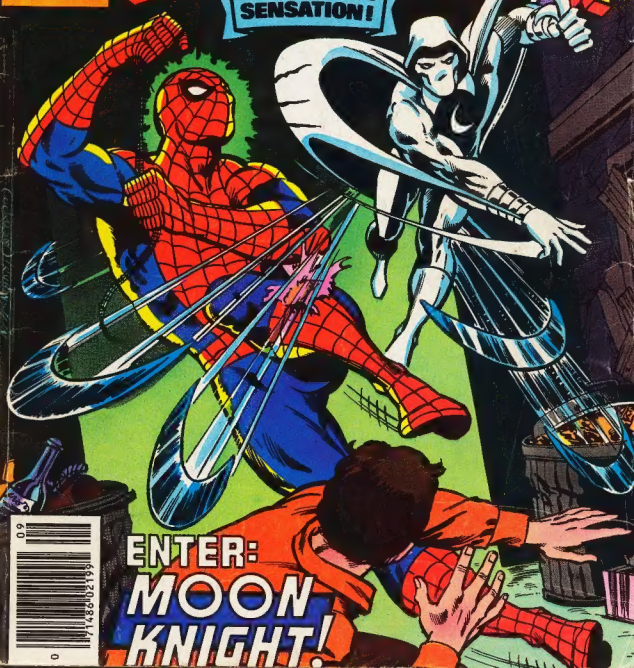
PETER PARKER THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN®

MARVEL'S TV
SENSATION!

ENTER:
MOON
KNIGHT!



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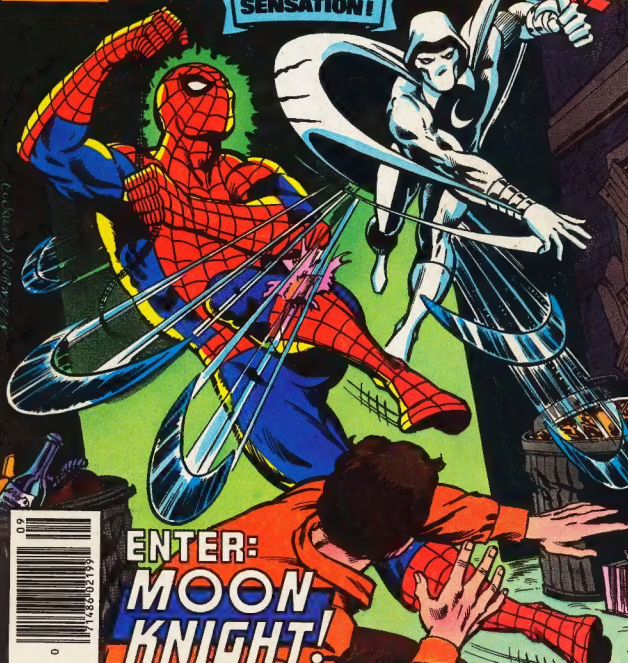
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While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the arachnid's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

Stan Lee PRESENTS: **THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN!**

BY THE LIGHT
OF THE SILVERY

MOON KNIGHT!

MOST GANGLAND SLAYINGS
TAKE PLACE IN DARK,
OUT-OF-THE-WAY PLACES!

N-NO,
PLEASE!
DON'T
KILL
ME!

AND THIS ONE-- IN THE
MUNICIPAL GARAGE
BENEATH THE
MANHATTAN DISTRICT
ATTORNEY'S OFFICE--
IS NO EXCEPTION!

EXCEPT THAT,
UNLIKE MOST,
THIS ONE IS
BEING WATCHED!

JIM SHOOTER,
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
BOB HALL
EDITOR

BILL MANTLO / MIKE ZECK
STORY PENCILS
BRUCE D. PATTERSON
INKS & LETTERS
GEORGE ROUSSOS, COLORS

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The Devastator scan

BUT WHETHER THE OBSERVER CAN DO ANYTHING TO SAVE THE GANE'S VICTIM REMAINS TO BE SEEN!

P-PLEASE, I--I
DON'T WANT
TO DIE!

YOU
SHOULDA THOUGHT
OF THAT BEFORE YOU
TALKED TO THE D.A.'S
COMMISSION ON
ORGANIZED CRIME,
LINDY!

THE MASSIA
DON'T LIKE
STOOLIES--
STOOLIE!

LINDY CRINGES! PLEADING
IS USELESS--

AFTER ALL, IT WAS PLEA-BARGAINING WITH DISTRICT
ATTORNEY BLAKE TOWER THAT GOT LINDY INTO THIS--

SCHUNK!

H-HUH--?!

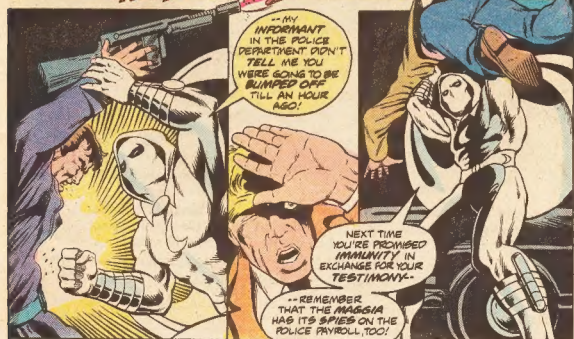
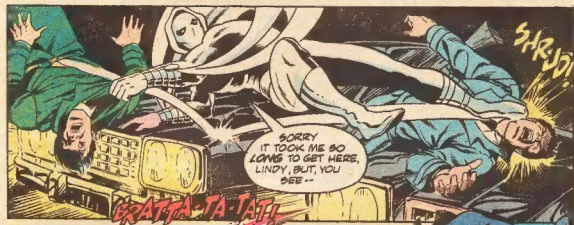
--BUT IT'S
ALL HE KNOWS
HOW TO DO!

--BUT IT'LL TAKE A HELL
OF A LOT MORE TO
GET HIM OUT!

WHAT THE--?
WHAT WAS
THAT?!

A SILVER
CRESCENT
MOON?!

GEEZ! AIN'T
THAT THE
CALLIN' CARD
O' THAT GUY--







THE SAME SKY
THAT UPTOWN
HIDES ANOTHER
ON HIS TIRED WAY...



HOME!
THOUGHT I'D
NEVER
MAKE IT!

WHAT A DAY! FIRST
I HAD TO GO ALL THE
WAY TO JERSEY
WITH IRON MAN, ON
THE TRAIL OF
WHIPLASH--*

-- THEN HE
TURNED OUT TO
BE JUST ONE
SURPRISE THE
MAGGIA HAD
IN STORE FOR
US!



*SEE MARVEL TEAM-
UP # 72 -- BOB.

I BARELY HAD TIME
TO VISIT AUNT MAY
AT THE HOSPITAL WHEN
I GOT BACK!

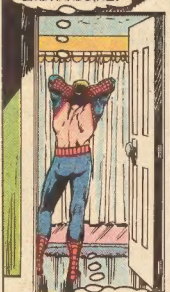


GOOD THING IT WAS A
LONG WEEKEND! NOW I
CAN GET SOME SLEEP BEFORE
CLASSES TOMORROW!



BUT I'D BETTER
GRAB A QUICK
SHOWER FIRST!

WHAT MY RIGHT
ARM IS TELLING MY
LEFT ARM IS DOWNRIGHT
EMBARRASSING!



TOO BAD
THERE'S NO ROOM
IN MY BELT
COMPARTMENTS FOR
ANTI-PERSPIRANT!

HEY! THAT
REPLASTERING
JOB I DID ON THE
CEILING IS STILL
UP! *



I TOLD
MRS. MUGGINS THAT I
HAD HIDDEN TALENTS!

* AFTER THE ROOF FELL IN PPTSS
#20 --
ROLICKING ROBERT.

AND SOON...

SPLISH SPLASH!
I WAS TAKING
A BATH...



WOW!
I NEVER
THOUGHT HOT
WATER COULD
FEEL SO
GOOD!

BUT, ALAS FOR OUR POOR MR. PARKER, IT'S A FEELING THAT JUST CAN'T LAST...



PETER? IT'S ME... BETTY!

BETTY WHO?

WHY, BETTY BRANT! = HOW MANY OTHER BETTYS DO YOU KNOW?

RECENTLY RETURNED IN *RAMBLER SPIDER-WOMAN* #12 - B

UH--JUST KIDDING, BETTY! COME ON IN! I'LL BE OUT IN A MINUTE!



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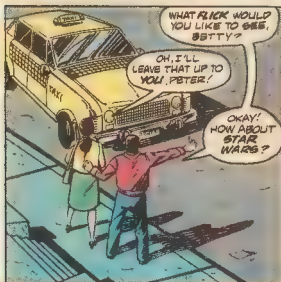
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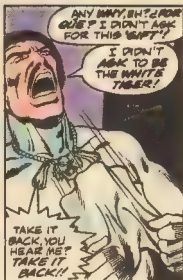
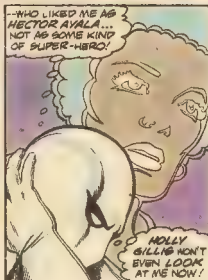
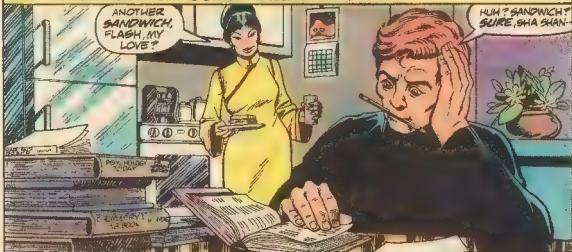
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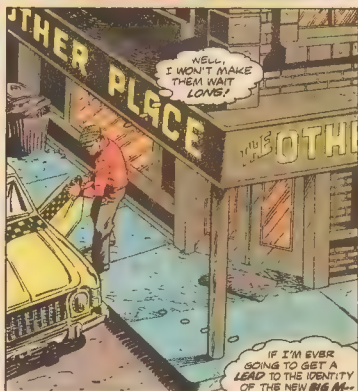
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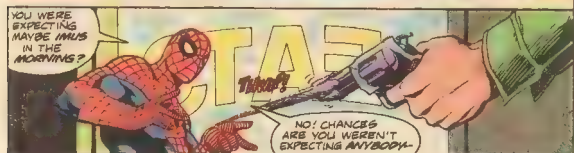
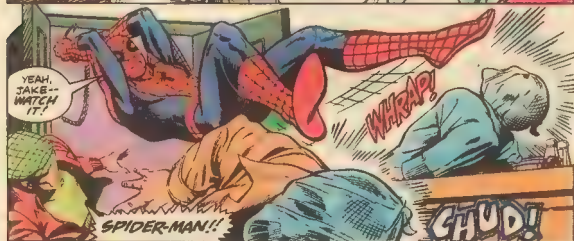
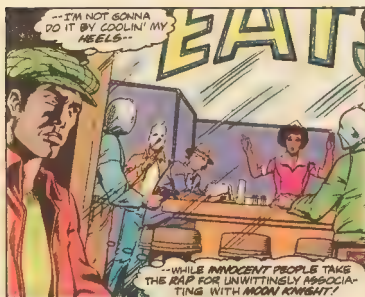
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AND, AS PETER AND BETTY SPEND AN EVENING ALMOST AS SILENT AS THE MOVIE THEY'RE WATCHING, WHY DON'T WE CHECK IN ON THE OTHER REGULARS IN THIS MAG?







SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP
575 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10022

BOB HALL
ED TOR
MARY JO DUFFY
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dear Bill, Sel and Archie,

The original premise of **PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER MAN**, to focus more attention on Spidey's lackluster alter-ego may have been inspiring while on the drawing board some 18 issues ago, but did we really believe that this title could be anything more than what it has since become: "exploitation without representation"?

In the last year-and-a-half of PPTSS's existence, Spidey has been deluged with a flotilla of boring super-hero guest-stars like the White Tiger (why do I hate Kung Fu characters?), Razorback (why do I hate CB-radios even more than I hate Kung Fu characters?) and the Angel and Iceman—not to mention horrible villains like Lightmaster, the Hitman and the Man Beast. And still nothing happens to Peter Parker to fret the readers of **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** that they might be missing something!

Peter Parker's characterization has been sorely neglected and stifled in favor of a more team-up oriented Spider-Man vehicle while, surprisingly, Peter has stolen the show in **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN**. Talk about your turnabouts and fair play!

When the next issues of **PETER PARKER** and **AMAZING** go to press, why not just switch the logos? It might make a heckuva lot more sense!

Jeffrey Lowndes
809 Sunset Street
Scranton, PA 18509

PREDICTION In the months to come, indeed, in this very issue, you will begin to see a change much along the very lines you yourself have expressed, Jeff. **PREDICTION:** You'll see more of Peter Parker and his companions as Bill and Jim Mooney (with an occasional fill-in by artists like Mike Zeck) stretch their creative muscles and get down to it. **PREDICTION:** You're going to like what you see in **PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN**. **CONCLUSION:** Write us again if you don't, and we'll try harder!

Dear Marvel,

PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER MAN #19 concluded the saga of perhaps one of the best super-hero groups of all time. I was saddened to see the passing of the truly unique Champions. I was even more disconsolate to see them go without even a final fight, and to only see the whole group together again in flashbacks. It was a true letdown.

Bill Mantlo did do a good job, however, of showing that the Champions was the Angel's dream of a supergroup for the common people. I, for one, would like to see this dream become a reality again with the Champions' revival (sans Hercules—I never could understand how he, a god, could relate to ordinary folk!).

Basically, PPTSS has not been as horrible as I had feared. I was afraid that, with three books devoted to the adventures of our Wall Crawler, continuity, not to mention quality, would go down the tubes. Except for the creation of Razorback, the stories have ranged from fair to top quality, and the casual reference in PPTSS #18 to Aunt May's illness brought this book up to date with what's been happening in **AMAZING SPIDER MAN**. I would love to see a crossover between the two books, or even a triple crossover with the addition of **MARVEL TEAM-UP**. Anyway, keep up the continuity, and I'll keep reading!

Bill The In
632 Robin Glen Drive
Glen Dale, CA 91202

Will do, William—and that crossover's not as impossible as you think!

Dear Marvel,

I've waited to send a letter concerning PPTSS #'s 17 and 18, guest starring Iceman and the Angel, until the two-parter's conclusion. I wanted to feel the story as a whole. Well, I've "felt" it—and thank you! It's always seemed to me that PPTSS was a bit below average for a Spider-Man tale, but, with these past two issues I've been proven wrong.

Guest-stars always help enhance a story, and Iceman and the Angel were no exception. For two relatively minor league heroes, they sure rated high enough in my book to get a series of their own. Time, as they say, will tell.

These two issues were really well done. I liked the way you had Bobby "play" Rampage, and the way you brought Spider-Man into the middle of things. The Angel's helplessness with regard to his friend's dilemma brought a kind of humaneness to the tale, and the action was non-stop, a change from your usually heavy-handed morality plays. Bill always manages to bring out the power of his heroes (IRON MAN, for example, has never been more invincible) and Bobby's true might was finally utilized to the hilt.

How about PPTSS going weekly?

Dave Pfeil
2006 S. Hydraul c
Wichita, KS 67211

Weekly? Our wall-crawling Wonder's already gone daily, David, in the **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** syndicated comic strip, and if your local paper hasn't picked it up by now, a pox on the fourth estate! Write your local newspaper editor. You won't want to miss a single day of Spidey's amazing adventures!

Dear Marvel,

When I first read the cover of PPTSS #18 I thought I was in for an exciting tale. Ya wanna know something? I was right! This comic is truly a masterpiece!

The story was excellent, containing just the right amount of action and suspense, and with just a flare of comedy. But then, you were dealing with great characters. I, being a fan of the late, lamented **CHAMPIONS**, thank you for bringing three of my all-time fave heroes together.

The art, also, was outstanding. Sel has always been one of my favorite artists, and he really came through this time with clean, detailed, quality artwork. Although I collect 18 Marvel titles a month, I can't think of one with better artwork.

Overall, PPTSS was just the kind of comic that makes me proud to call myself a Marvelite. 'Nuff said?

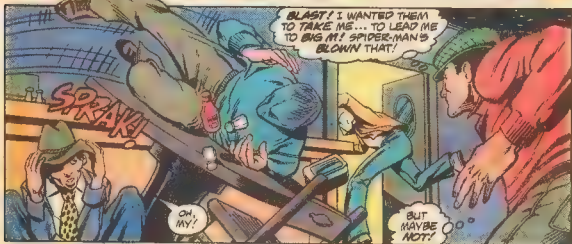
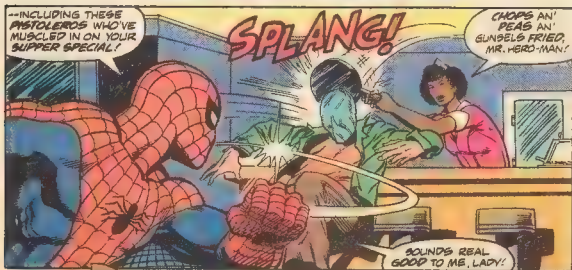
Roger Frisby
4 Old Stage Court
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Bill,

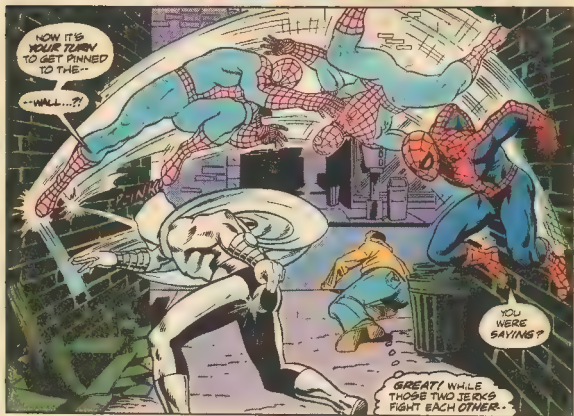
I say it was Lightmaster who broke out of that prison cell at the end of PPTSS #18. Do I win a No Pr ze?

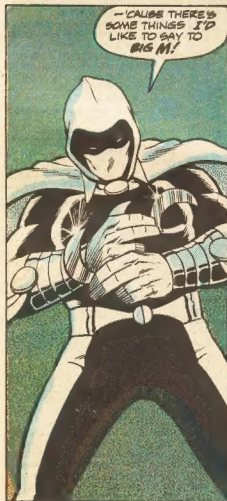
Ted Kaufman
1045 Shore Road
Norfolk, VA 23506

Yep! It's on its way, Mr. K!









BULPEN BULLETINS

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Know something? I've gotta learn to speak Japanese! All of a sudden, Marvel is threatening to become the latest and greatest "in" thing in the Land of the Rising Sun! There are special Japanese-version Marvel movies being produced, specially adapted Marvel comics, toys, games, and—for all we know—even Spider-Man Samurai warriors! (We know there are SHOGUN warriors, 'cause we're preparing a great new Shogun mag right now, but it's still a secret, so don't let on I toldja!) Anyway, just to totally obfuscate the issue, see if you can figure this one out. These wise and witty words are being written for you in the beginning of March, in order to get them printed in time to go on sale in June! Now stay with this, hear? I'm heading for Japan in the middle of May, which is a couple of months from now ("now" being the time I'm writing this!) I'm bustin' to tell you all about my trip, but I can't 'cause I haven't gone yet; although by the time you read this I'll have been back for about a month! See why I'm always mixed up? See why we always tell you that Marvel time is different than "real world" time? See why, when someone asks me the date, I panic and run for the hills? But now, before you get too emotional about this, let's welcome all our Japanese friends on board; and, to all of them, and all of you, the mighty voices of Marveldom Assembled now cry out: "YO! toh-MOH-dah-chi ni nah-RI-mah-shoh; NAH-kah yoh-ku shi-MAH-shoh", which, as all True Believers know, means "Let us be good friends!" And, if the omnipotent Odin will return the Silver Surfer's curling iron to him, one of these days I'll teach you how to say it in English!

Excelsior!

Stan

ITEM! First things first! Our humblest apologies to plucky PETRA GOLDBERG for failing to mention in last month's Bullpen Bulletins her outstanding contribution to Marvel Super Special #4 featuring THE BEATLES STORY. Petra is responsible for the splendid coloring therein—but since every alert Marvelite already possesses his very own copy, you all know that anyway.

ITEM! It seems that congratulations are in order for none other than Dauntless DON MCGREGOR. Early this April, the lucky guy wed a certain lovely lady by the name of Marsha Childers, and it would appear they'll both be on Cloud 9 for quite a while! We at the Bullpen would like to join Marveldom Assembled in wishing the newlyweds all the best.

ITEM! Speaking of Don McGregor, somehow, during what had to have been rather hectic weeks before his wedding, the Dauntless One

managed to script the masterful tale appearing in MARVEL PREMIERE #43. The story features PALADIN, a hard-fisted, sharp-shooting, mildly mercenary sensation first introduced in the pages of DAREDEVIL by JIM (Trouble) SHOOTER. Seldom has a new character evoked such an overwhelming ovation, and so notch, the ever-eager-to-please Bullpen wasted little time bringing him back in his own showcase. It's magnificently illustrated by Tap-dancin' TOM SUTTON and it's on sale now! And by the way, any resemblance between Paladin's damsel-in-distress and Don's blushing bride is probably his doing!



ITEM! Special Events abound this month! After seeming ages of hard work by Devil-May-Care DOUG MOENCH, Rampagin' RON WILSON, and Redoubtable RICARDO VILLAMONTE, the first full-color magazine-size issue of THE HULK is finally on sale—and is it a doozie! Yours for only a pittance—a mere \$1.50—it portrays the Emerald Behemoth in a manner befitting the mightiest mortal ever to walk the earth. It's all there—the power, the hate, the triumph and the tragedy—truly this is an epic! As if the art and story weren't enough, this issue also features a full-color photo section devoted to the smash sensation Incredible Hulk TV show! Get to your newsstand fast, before they're all gone!

ITEM! Also hot off the presses and available for your reading pleasure is the first Simon and Schuster Pocket Book featuring DOCTOR STRANGE! It's a real collector's item, recalling the Master Mage's earliest and earliest encounters as dazzlingly depicted by Stan Lee and Steve Ditko! The back cover alone is worth the price of admission!

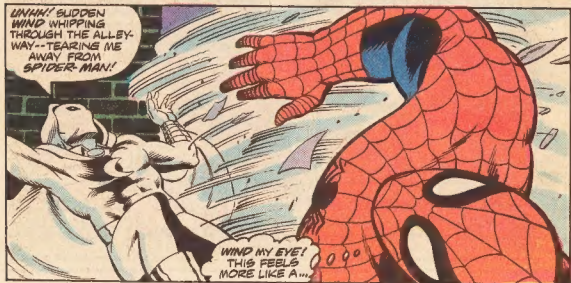
ITEM! More news from Simon and Schuster! THE MIGHTY MARVEL SUPER-HEROES FUN BOOK #3 is in the bookstores now just waiting to provide untold hours of entertainment for Marvel Minions. Check it out!

ITEM! Whew! Sometimes we get so caught up in all the fanfare for exceptional items and once-in-a-lifetime deals we almost forget to mention the things that made Marvel great in the first place—namely our regular comics that month after month quietly maintain an incredible standard of excellence—the solid backbone of the line. One such title is CONAN, which as every True Believer knows, is fast approaching its 100th issue. Rescally ROY THOMAS, writer and editor of both the CONAN color comic and THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN black-and-white magazine, has consistently provided excellent stories and arranged for some of the very best artists anywhere to illustrate them. In addition to Big JOHN BUSCEMA, perennial Conan penciller and Eighth Wonder of the World, ALFREDO ALCALA, CARMINE INFANTINO, GENE COLAN, and FRANK BRUNNER have all recently illustrated adventures of the sullen-eyed Cimmerian, each in his own distinctive, trend-setting style. Thus, barbarian-wethers will be treated to varied visual delights in upcoming months, and we promise you'll love every minute of it.

ITEM! While we're on the subject of visual delights, we trust that everyone is as enamored of the precise penciling of Jocular JOHN BYRNE as we are. A recent copy of X-MEN should serve as proof that our favorite denizen of the Frozen North has truly risen to Superstar Status! John visited us here in civilization while attending the March Creation Convention, and delighted everyone with his warmth and wit. He's a great talent and a nice guy. Ask any Armadillo.



ITEM! Just a final note which lends credence to our belief that Mighty Marvel is taking over the world—Did you know that in the smash Broadway musical extravaganza, BEATLEMANIA, a whole posse of Marvel characters are featured in the multimedia presentation? Notable among them are Magneto, Spidee, Mr. Marvel, Miss America, the Wizard, Captain America, the Sub-Mariner, Iron Fist, Power Man, and more! Isn't fame wonderful? Hoo-hah!



CYCLONE!

CERTAINMENT,
MEE AMI! ZEE MASSIA
IS TRULY INTERNATIONAL
IN SCOPE!

SO WHY SHOULD
ZEE GREATEST VILLAIN
ON ZEE CONTINENT NOT
BE IMPORTED AS A
MEMBAIR?!

I DON'T
KNOW-- BUT I'VE
GOT A NASTY HUNCH
I'M GONNA FIND
OUT!

GUESS WHO'S
BURIED IN

GRANT'S TOMB?